

John of Austria

Special interest points:

- *John's naval victory at the Battle of Lepanto against the Ottoman Empire*

HE DEFEATS THE TURKS AT THE GULF OF CORINTH

'JOHN OF AUSTRIA IN THE BATTLE OF LEPANTO'

"HIS NAVAL VICTORY AGAINST THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE".

7 days ago, Don John found a Turkish fleet at Lepanto, in the Gulf of Corinth. After some debate, the Turks chose to fight, even though they had been at sea all summer and disbanded some of their people. On the 7th of October, the Turkish fleet emerged into the Gulf of Patras and took battle formation. Around noon the battle commenced. The cannonade of the galleasses disrupted

the Turkish formations as they pressed to the attack, and the bigger and more numerous guns of the Christian allies did devastating damage. In the fighting on decks, the allies prevailed. The Turkish remaining, tried to outmaneuver Doria's wing army, drawing it away from the League center. When a gap appeared between Doria and the center, Uluj Ali, their best admiral, made a quick

turn about and aimed at the gap, smashing three galleys of the Knights of Malta on Don John's right flank. Don John came around smartly while the Marquis of Santa Cruz hit Uluj Ali hard with his rear guard. Uluj Ali himself and maybe half his army escaped.

The victory was near total, with the Turkish fleet destroyed and thousands of veterans lost.

During and after the battle of Lepanto Don John was addressed in letters and in person as "Highness" and "Prince".



BATTLE OF LEPANTO



THE VICTORS OF LEPANTO

(from left: Don Juan de Austria, Marcantonio Colonna, Sebastiano Venier).